

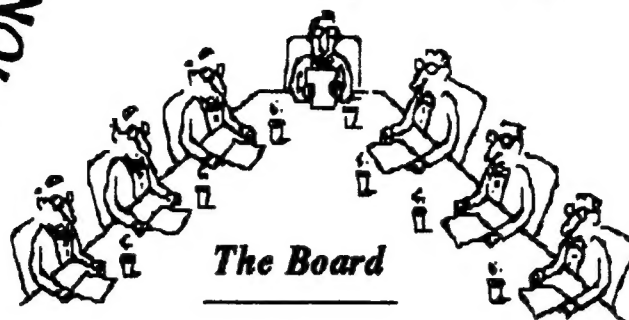


9-92

Hampden County Radio Association, Inc.

ZERO BEAT

September 1, 1992 Fall Issue



The Board

1992 Club Officers 1993

President	Larry Lemoine	N1EPE
Vice President	Fred Stefanik	N1DPM
Secretary	Jim Sebott	N1OVY
Treasurer	Greg Stoddard	N1AEH

1992 Board of Directors 1993

W1YCA Tyron Cote	KA1TBS Fred Gore
NR1L Kevin Hillinski	K1MVR Dave Olson
W1ZGP Bob Leaver	KA1WER Paul Geng

There are currently two board positions open for the board of directors. Anyone interested in becoming a board member, please contact any club officer listed!

Next Scheduled Club Meeting Information !!

Please note: The meeting date has been changed from September 4, 1992
Due to the Labor Day Holiday Weekend !

Feeding Hills Congregational Church
 Rte 57 & 189
 Feeding Hills, Ma. 01030

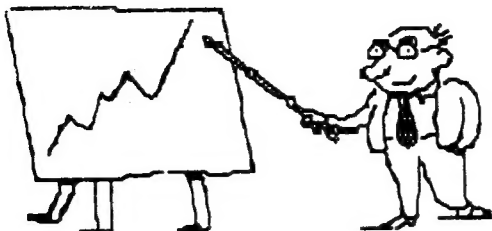
Friday, September 11, 1992

Doors open at 7:30 pm Meeting Starts 8:00 pm

Guest Speaker: John Balboni AC1T
Topic: Repeater Operation and Care

John will give a discussion on the proper operation and maintenance of a repeater.
 This is sure to be an excellent meeting.
DON'T MISS IT !!





President's Message

Greetings, sure hope that everyone has enjoyed the summer and is looking forward to another great season of the HCRA. As your new president, I'd like to introduce myself. I am 48 years old, married (27 years), we have two children, both out of college. I've been a ham for six years and my wife Diane is also a ham, N1JJ0. We have been members of HCRA for four years and I have personally enjoyed being a board member for about three years. My radio interests include HF DXing, ragchewing, and VHF packet.

My non-radio interests are primarily camping, biking and music. I work at Mass Mutual where I am the food service Director. Well enough about me, on to business.

The annual June banquet held this summer at The Wherehouse? was another big success. All who attended enjoyed a great meal and the fascinating tour of the unique facilities. Instead of a guest speaker, the board elected to recognize key members of the club who, through their efforts, contributed in making last year a success. I believe it's important to let you know who they are:

ACIT John Balboni KA1MPS Lil Beauchemin

WBIETS Ron Beauchemin

K1MVR Dave Olson K1BXE Yorke Phillips

NO1M Ken Doerpholz

N1EVE Pauline Dunlap

KA1WER Paul Geng KC1ZJ Jim Davis

KA1QFE Bob Gutowski KA1ZE Stan Hillinski

W1ALL George Hughes

KA1ZCY Howard Pomeroy

N1SR Stefan Rodowicz W1HYO Tom Shea

W1MM Bob Stevens W1CJK Bill Werenski

Would you like to participate on the club's board? As of August, we still have two unfilled Directors positions. Anyone wishing information on what it's all about should contact a current board member or call me directly at (782-9578) anytime before 9pm.

Rumor has it there's a new outer marker for Bradley Field being built at Frank Potts (NC1I)'s QTH! Frank, with help from club members, is building the largest 432 EME array in the world, 48 separate 15 ELF beams at 40 ft. Completion date is sometime in October. **IMAGINE THAT!!**

As noted elsewhere in this issue, the next monthly meeting of your board of directors will be Thursday, September 17, 1992 starting at 7:30 pm at my QTH. You are more than welcome to attend. If you have any items you want considered, NOW is the time to contact me or any board member in writing. I believe you have an excellent group of board members and we are interested in your input. Anything received in writing will be considered. If you wish to mail your ideas directly to me, my address is:

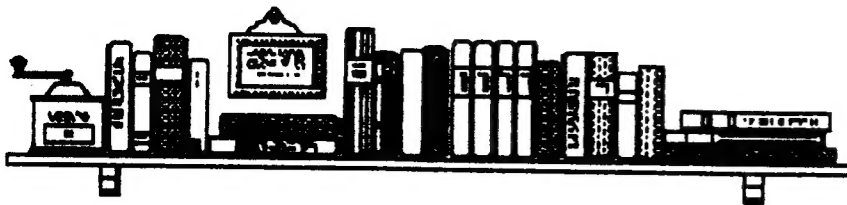
Larry Lemoine, N1EPE

131 Birchland Avenue

Springfield, Ma. 01119

We'll take care everyone, and I hope to see you at the September meeting.

...73's Larry



Editor's Desk

To introduce myself . .

Over the summer months I was afforded the task of assuming the responsibility of editor of "Zero Beat". I feel that a brief demographic is in order. First of all I am a member in good standing of both the Hampden County Radio Association, Inc. and Mount Tom Amateur

Repeater Assn. I became editor of "Intermod" in December 1991.

As a college student, I feel that I have developed a sort of talent or aptitude for literary expression. I am pleased to be able to try to offer the members of HCRA the same dedication and quality in a newsletter that MT. Tom and I have come to enjoy. Please bear with me because I am experimenting with new software which is always a pain. In addition to Intermod, I am also an associate editor for a quarterly health based piece in Springfield. I became interested in helping out on Zero Beat after I helped put together various advertisements for the flea market. I was offered this position when the need arose and was delighted to accept. I believe this will be an excellent opportunity to allow me to contribute something of value to our club and selfishly, to help me fine tune my literary skills.

Although my position on Zero Beat is strictly voluntary and is not a board position, please be aware that I feel strongly about the commitment I have made to HCRA. With time I hope to become more comfortable with how Zero Beat is put together and be able to interact more with its contributors, to continue to give you a top quality newsletter.

Now down to where I can use your help! With handling 3 different publications from start to finish, I have come to respect the necessity for uniqueness and accuracy. Many of us are members of both HCRA and MTARA. Although this is an amateur publication, I still would like to add a degree of professionalism to the finished product. Now that I handle both newsletters, I can expect an influx of articles for print. Please be sure to indicate if the article is to be published in ZERO BEAT or INTERMOD or both.

Remember, this is your newsletter. If we work together we can eliminate any possibility of confusion and continue to have a great issue every month. So that I can be sure to get ZERO BEAT to you in a timely fashion I must ask that the following deadline be adhered to:

All articles should be submitted to me either on disk (3.5") in ASCII format or in writing by the 15th of each month. Articles received after this date will appear in the next issue. Should you have any questions please contact me directly!

73's and thanks for having me on board

**Send Your Articles to:
Chuck Daley N1JJF
Po Box 521
Agawam, Ma
01001-0521
413-786-9978**



Article and
Photos Courtesy of
Fred Stefanik N1DPM

Well, here we are again, it's the last weekend in June and we all know what that meansFIELD DAY!!!

Friday: This is setup day and being a Friday, the turn-out is usually small, however, alot is accomplished. Setup starts at 2PM and as usual, it is attacked wholeheartedly. We put together and up, a 3 element Delta Loop for 40 Meter phone, a pair of 3 element Yagis, one for phone, one for CW, a 40/80 Meter trap inverted vee for CW, 4 element Yagis for 15 and 10 meters and an extended double zepp for 875 meter phone. These are all large antennas, but thanks to the town of Agawam, and Agawam civil defense, the installation of these is relatively easy and simple. Pulleys are installed at the 80 foot level on all 4 of the light poles at the Agawam High School football field.

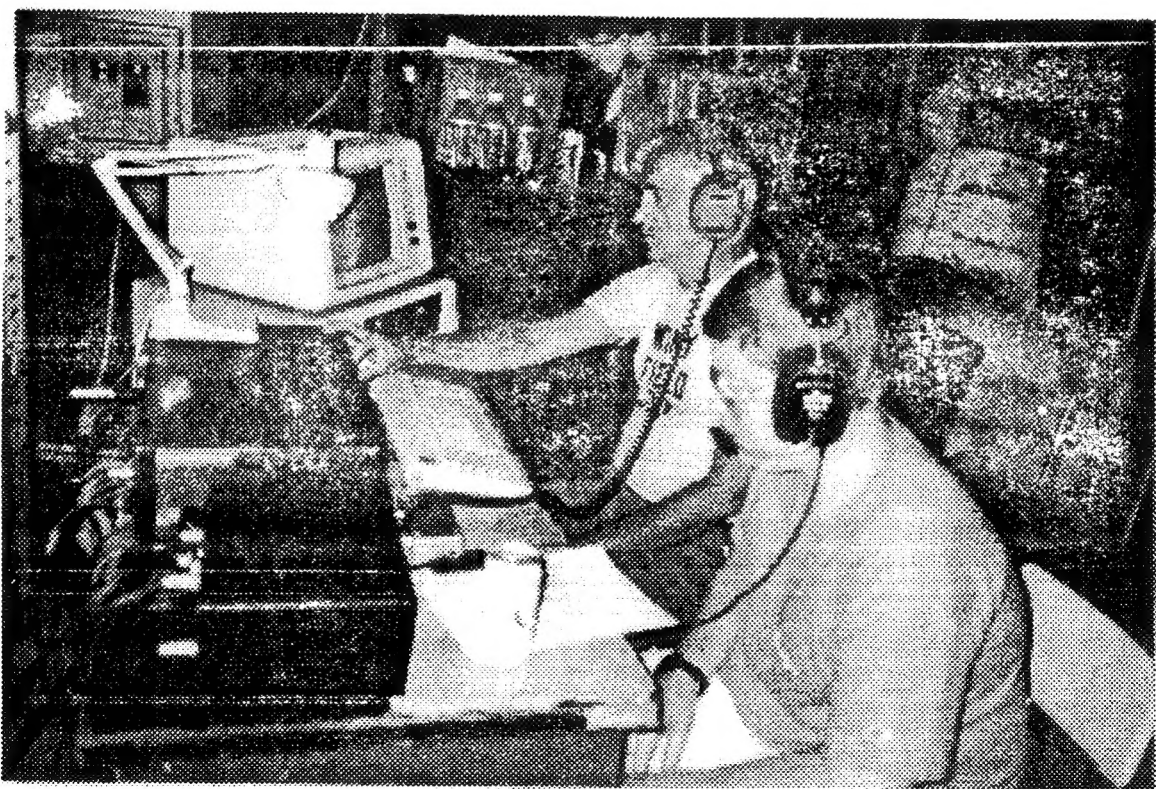
All you needed to do was attach the antennas and pull them up. Everything goes smoothly.

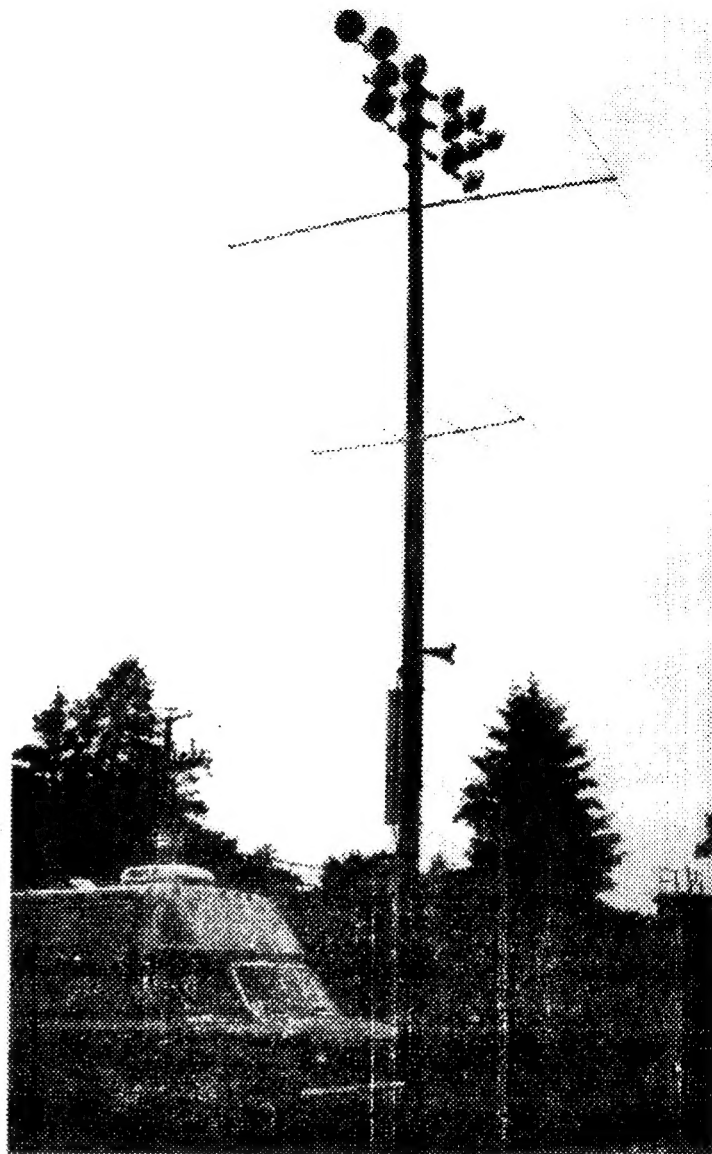
Saturday: Everyone arrives after breakfast and starts to set up equipment. All stations are on and operating by 12 noon, and we're all ready to start the contest at 2PM sharp! All we need now is to have the weather cooperate. What would field day be without a thunderstorm ??? Well, at about 2:30 a massive, severe thunderstorm overtook us. Keep in mind Field Day is an emergency preparedness exercise to show that we're ready in case of a disaster (severe weather). We disconnected the equipment, (needed for Emergency Communications) turned tail and RAN in the safe confines of our vehicles to the parking lot to ride out the storm. All the equipment, antennas and operators survived. Back to operating. All seems to be going smoothly. All the bands are in good shape except for 10 meters, it's dead. Had a fine BBQ dinner courtesy of K1CPJ and K1MVR our fine field day chefs.

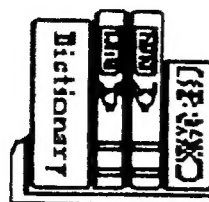
Everything goes smoothly.

Sunday: The QSO's are really adding up now; with only a few hours left. Time for a fine continental breakfast as served by our chefs, then back to "hit it hard" till the end. 2PM is now upon us and the end of the contest. A quick count shows about 3000 QSO's with 40 meter phone on top with 1079 and 20 meter phone not far behind. Now it's time to take down the antennas and pack everything up for next year. Everything goes smoothly and it's complete by about 5PM.

Thanks: Thanks and congratulations go to all who were there and helped out through the weekend, you know who you are. Special thanks go to K1MVR and K1CPJ for the fine food. KA1ZE and NO1Z for the coordination effort (making sure everyone was working) and especially to KA1HTJ, Tony who makes the field available to us every year. Hope to see everyone out there next year.







For Your Information

Light Bulb Radiation **by Charlie Dunlap K111**

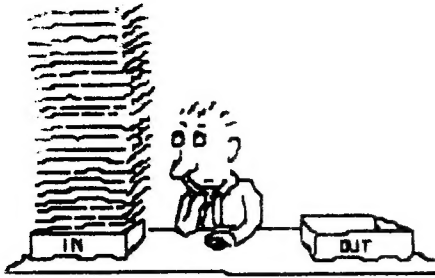
With the newly announced crystal oscillator/power amplified/coil antenna/mercury vapor plasma RF powered ISM (13.56 MHz industrial, scientific, medical band) LIGHT BULBS, great concern by amateurs is raised as to these new bulbs meeting FCC Part 15 rules regarding incidental interference. It seems that there is more scientific data to properly understand the problem. During a recent six-meter QSO with N8PJP, Stan, I was enlightened with the following:

NTMS Laboratory Proves **Existence of Dark Suckers**

For years it has been believed that electric bulbs emitted light. However, recent information from NTMS Labs has proven otherwise. Electric bulbs don't emit light; they suck dark. The DARK SUCKER THEORY, according to NTMS Lab spokesperson, proves the existence of dark, that dark has mass, that dark is heavier than light, and dark is faster than light. The basis of the DARK SUCKER THEORY is that electric bulbs suck dark. The larger the dark sucker the greater it's capacity to suck dark. Dark suckers in a parking lot have much more capacity than the small ones in most rooms. As with all things, dark suckers don't last forever. Once they are full of dark, they can no longer suck. This is proven by the black spot on a full dark sucker. A candle is a primitive dark sucker. A new candle has a white wick. After it's first use the wick turns black representing all the dark it has sucked up.

There are portable dark suckers. The bulbs in these can't handle all the dark by themselves and must be aided by a dark storage unit. When the dark storage is full, it must be emptied or replaced by a Dark Storage Unit supplied by Duracell or Eveready. Dark also has mass. When dark goes into the dark sucker, friction from this mass generates heat. Thus it is not wise to touch an operating dark sucker. Candles present a special problem as the dark must travel in the solid wick instead of through glass generating a greater amount of heat causing it to be dangerous to touch an operating dark sucker. Dark is also heavier than light. Example: in a lake as you swim deeper and deeper you notice it gets darker and darker. When you reach a depth of about fifty feet you are in total darkness. This is because the heavier dark sinks to the bottom of the lake with the lighter light floating to the top. Our final demonstration is that dark is faster than light. If you were to stand in an illuminated room in front of a closed dark closet and slowly open the closet door, you would see the light slowly enter the closet, but since dark is so fast, you would not see the dark leave the closet.

In conclusion, this announcement by NTMS Labs, says next time you look at an electric bulb, remember that it is indeed a DARK SUCKER.



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Introduction of New Editor

Fred N1DPM
Charlie K1II
Larry N1EPE
Chuck N1JJF

Getting Motivated

Next scheduled meeting of the Board Of Directors will be Thursday, September 17, 1992 at 7:30 pm. The meeting will be held at Larry, N1EPE's QTH on Birchland Avenue in Springfield. Hope to see you there.

Hampden County Radio Association, Inc.
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